

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Rural Electrification Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

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FILLER FACTS ABOUT ELECTRICITY

For every dollar invested in building rural co-op power systems, consumers spend \$4.50 on wiring and equipment.

Daylight-type bulbs are handy for laundry rooms because they make it easier to detect spots and stains.

Wiring specialists advise posting a diagram of your wiring circuits by your fuse box to help spot the trouble when a fuse blows.

About $2\frac{1}{4}$ million rural families in the U. S. Still do not have electricity.

One kilowatt-hour of electricity will pump a thousand gallons of water from the average farm well.

Applications for loans to build rural power lines are coming into REA at the rate of a million dollars a day.

Dark lamp shades absorb light. The same bulb will give 50 percent more light with a white or ivory shade.

No part of the living room baseboard should be more than 6 feet from a convenience outlet, since most appliance and lamp cords are 6 feet long.

Overheating shortens the life of an electric iron.

If she gets all the water she wants, a cow will give 8 to 15 percent more milk.

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Electrical specialists estimate that one kilowatt-hour of electricity, costing a few cents, will do as much work as a strong man working hard 24 hours.

An electric milker cuts down milking time about one-third, according to the agricultural specialists.

More than 84 percent of the farms in North Dakota still did not have central station electric service on June 30, 1947.

The Smithsonian Institution estimates that it would take 30 times as many hard-working slaves as we have population to do the jobs electricity is now doing in America.

If your iron cord is detachable, disconnect it at the convenience outlet -- not at the iron.

All wiring on electric systems financed by the REA must be installed in accordance with the National Electrical Code.

U. S. farmers use electricity in more than 350 different ways.

A foot-candle, the unit for measuring light, is the amount of light produced by the flame of a standard candle on a surface a foot distant.

A 100-watt bulb gives more light than two 50-watt bulbs.

Home planner's note: A good height for placing the convenience outlet for the washer, electric iron, or ironer is about 40 inches from the floor.

Electric pig brooders cut losses of baby pigs about one-half -- by providing them with a safe way of keeping warm without getting crushed by the sow.

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Bare light bulbs cause glare. They should not be used without shades except in little-used parts of the house.

Farmers keep giving electricity more work to do. Last year, rural consumers, on REA-financed power lines, used an average of 123 KWH monthly as compared to 114 KWH monthly the year before.

When an REA co-op finishes repaying its government loan, the electric system becomes the property of co-op patrons who paid for it through their electric bills.

A ceiling of dark color absorbs light; a shiny surface causes glare. Ceilings with a light, flat finish are recommended by REA lighting specialists.

REA-financed electric systems have brought power to 22,000 rural schools.

More than 200 kinds of lamps are used in American homes for a wide variety of purposes.

Rural electrification progressed at a record rate between June 30, 1946 and June 30, 1947, with almost 400,000 farms hooked up to power lines for the first time.

Fuses are safety valves for your electric system. Never replace a blown fuse by a coin or a wrong-size fuse.

For a yard light, REA lighting experts advise a 100-watt to 200-watt bulb in a shallow, weatherproof reflector.

Although REA co-ops broke all previous records in building new power lines during the fiscal year 1947, there was still a backlog of \$278,000,000 in loan applications at the end of the year.

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Nearly 300,000 rural consumers were hooked up to REA-financed lines between June 30, 1946 and June 30, 1947.

When buying a daylight-type bulb, get a size brighter than the ordinary bulb you would use for the same purpose.

When REA was established 12 years ago, 10 percent of the farms had electricity as compared to 61 percent receiving electric service today.

Safety specialists warn against using pull-chain switches unless they contain an insulating link or cord.

By June 30, 1947, more than 1,800,000 rural consumers were receiving electric service from REA-financed distribution systems.

Operations of REA-financed rural electric systems have paid nearly \$20,000,000 ahead of schedule on debt retirement.

Sunlamps have been used successfully in experiments by shirt manufacturers to bleach out scorch caused by too hot an iron.

Despite recent progress in rural electrification, nine states report that they each have more than 100,000 farms unserved by central station electric power.

Electricity is measured in watts in honor of James Watt, the Englishman who invented the steam engine. A kilowatt (1,000 watts) of electric power is about the same as 1 1/3 horsepower (hp).

Safety tip: Don't let the braid of insulation on electric cords get frayed or worn. Repair or replace immediately.

The first central station electric system was the Pearl Street Plant built by Thomas A. Edison in New York, which went into service in 1882.

Milk should be kept in a cold part of your electric refrigerator. Don't leave it on the table for long periods while cooking or eating.

Electric appliances should be connected to wall outlets -- not to drop cords or lamp sockets .

Safety tip: Disconnect electric appliances as soon as you finish using them.

One way to take out "life insurance" on your electric appliances is to store them in a clean, handy, dry place where they will be protected from falls.

Reminder from REA home electrification specialists: Pull on the plug, not the cord, when disconnecting an appliance.

When buying electrical appliances, look for the Underwriters' Laboratory (UL) seal which shows that it has passed safety tests.

Warm food should be allowed to cool before they are stored in an electric refrigerator.

Co-ops have pioneered in bringing large-scale electric power to rural areas, about 95 percent of REA-financed electric systems have been built cooperatively by local groups.
